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the fault of the prophet. The complexity of the determining conditions in such data as are here discussed make distant forecasts of even approximate accuracy well-nigh impossible.

F. S. CRUM.

EARLY CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS.

Public Documents of the First Fourteen Congresses, 1789-1817. Papers relating to early Congressional Documents, prepared by A. W. Greely. Washington, 1900. 903 pp. (56th Congress, 1st session. Senate Doc. 428.) 8vo.

A pamphlet by General Greely, which appeared in 1897 on the same subject, was mentioned in the *Publications* in June, 1900 (vol. VII, page 57). The present greatly enlarged volume consists of four distinct parts: 1st, pp. 3-17, an introductory and historical essay; 2d, pp. 19-855, the main body of the volume, a List of the Journals, Reports and other documents of the first fourteen Congresses, with notes showing the character of the documents and the libraries in which the original editions may be found; 3d, pp. 856-858, a list of the most important publications containing reprints, in whole or in part, of the Proceedings, Journals, Documents, etc., of the early congresses, also of indexes and other finding lists to the Congressional documents; 4th, pp. 859-903, an index of names.

General Greely has collected a great many more titles of early documents than have ever been before brought together, and his compilation will doubtless supersede the early pages of Poore's *Descriptive Catalogue*, until General Greely's work, in turn, is surpassed by an even more nearly perfect list, such as we hope will be provided in the promised new *Checklist* from the Government Documents Office.

The fourth part of General Greely's book, the Index of names, is an especially valuable addition to our list of aids in the use of Government publications of early date.

L. P. L.